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ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE SOVIET PEAT INDUSTRY IN 1951 AND TASKS FOR 1952

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The USSR peat industry fulfilled the 1951 plan for peat extraction 114.1 percent, with all peat trusts exceeding the plan and all extracted peat gathered. At the same time, the quality of the peat extracted improved over 1950. The moisture content of lump peat was reduced from 37.5 percent as of 1 October 1950 to 29 percent by 1 October 1951, and the moisture content of milled peat was reduced 2 percent as compared with 1950. During 9 months of 1951, production costs of peat extraction were lowered 4 percent below the plan. The plan for delivery of peat to consumers was also exceeded.

The plan for the mechanized gathering of milled peat was fulfilled 111 percent, while the proportion of milled peat gathered by manual methods dropped from 35.2 percent in 1950 to 13.5 percent in 1951.

During the past season, the Peat Enterprise imeni Klasson put into operation the new UPF-1 electric-gathering and piling machine, an aggregate with an automatic scoop, which gathered during the season 54,500 tons of milled peat, fulfilling the plan 181.8 percent.

The electric PUM-3e pneumatic machine was utilized by the Petrovsko-Kobelevskiy Peat Enterprise, but it completed the plan for peat gathering only 61.8 percent. The chief reason for the unsatisfactory performance of the machine was structural imperfections, mainly in the aerodynamics section.

During 1951, an installation for the artificial drying of milled peat was constructed at the Podozerskiy Peat Enterprise.

Although Glavtorf and Glavtorfmash have carried out a tremendous amount of work toward mechanizing the labor-consuming processes in the peat industry, nevertheless, they have been guilty of a number of serious omissions in the

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fulfillment of the plan for mechanization. During the season just finished, only six excavators worked at clearing peat pits instead of a planned 19 and only seven stump removers in place of a planned 20.

Work on mechanizing the gathering of lump peat was completely unsatisfactory, with Glavtorf completing the plan only 32 percent. Glavtorfmash and its Kuznetsk Plant are chiefly responsible for this failure. At the height of the season, the poor quality of the delivered UKB-2 machines made it necessary for peat enterprises to remedy manufacturing defects before they could put the machines in operation. The UKB-2 machine gave a particularly bad performance at the Petrovsko-Kobelevskiy, Pakshevo, Karinskiy, Dunilovskiy Markovo-Sbornyy, Vasil'yevskiy Mokh and Gusevskiy peat enterprises. When UKB and TUM machines were given proper attention, their performance almost fulfilled the plan, as was the case of the Chistyy Enterprise of the Chernoramenskiy Trust and the Tugolesskiy Bor Enterprise of the Shatura Peat Trust.

An output of 246 tons per worker, or 113 percent of the 1951 plan and 134 percent of the 1950 output, is anticipated for 1951. Labor productivity in 1951 amounted to 127 percent /of the plan/ as against 121 percent in 1950. The number of workers not completing their norms decreased to 7 percent in 1951 as against 12 percent in 1950.

As a result of competition among peat enterprises during 9 months of 1951, banners of the Council of Ministers USSR were won by the following: the Enterprise imeni Klasson, Bryanskiy, Sitnikovskiy, Gatchina, and the Tesovo I peat enterprises, the Leningrad Peat Trust, and the peat transport organization of the Peat Enterprise imeni Klasson.

Results of the same competition brought the banner of the VTsSPS and the Ministry of Electric Power Stations to 15 enterprises and second and third prizes to 31 others.

Banners were presented to 160 operators of the UMPF machine, 22 brigades for peat extraction with the aid of a TEMP excavator, and 19 mechanized peat-extraction sections and fields.

Efficiency experts and inventors in peat enterprises have made great progress in increasing the productivity of existing machinery and in mechanizing the production processes. Some of the most important innovations adopted in 1951 are as follows:

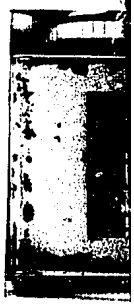
1. A machine for breaking the frozen surface of a peat field, proposed by a member of the Orekhovo Peat Enterprise.

2. A peat crane combined with a high-pressure pump, proposed by workers of the Kalinin Peat Trust.

3. A scraper for gathering up particles on newly developed milled peat fields, proposed by a multiple-purpose brigade of the Ozeretskiy Peat Enterprise.

Although the 1951 plan for field drainage was fulfilled, a number of peat enterprises failed to achieve this goal, including the Sverdlovsk Peat Trust, which had completed the calendar plan only 86.2 percent by 1 November.

In 1951 only 179 hectares for the extraction of milled peat were prepared and put in operation in old peat pits. In 1952, Glavtorf must set up a detailed plan for peat enterprises, providing for a considerable increase in the exploitation of old pits, and, in the connection, Giprotorf must accelerate the drawing up of technical plans.



The Boksitogorsk Artificial Dehydration Plant is slowly familiarizing itself with the production process, but it has not fulfilled the established plan for the construction and utilization of new shops to produce chemical products from waste materials.

Giktorf [State Institute for Establishing and Improving the Quality of Peat?] has not devoted adequate attention to improving the quality of peat. It has delayed rating deposits and fixing permissible range limits for the peat ash content in the case of a number of enterprises. Other shortcomings in the work of the institute are indicated by the lack of experimentation on questions of improving the quality of peat, on combating spontaneous combustion and wetting, on decreasing every type of other losses, and on mechanization of work in the selection of samples.

During 10 months of 1951, Glavtorfostroy fulfilled the plan 90.7 percent, including bog development operations, 71 percent; housing construction, 97 percent; and cultural and public building construction, 75 percent. The Gortorfostroy Trust gave a worse performance than the others, fulfilling the plan for this period only 83 percent. The Chistoborskoye-Pikino and Ezherelis-Yure railroad branch lines have not been put in operation, the transshipping station at the Berendeyevskiy Peat Enterprise has not been completed, the construction of machinery workshops is being delayed, and the construction of cultural and public buildings is lagging.

The 1952 plan calls for 15.1-percent increase over the 1951 plan in the productivity per production worker and an 8-percent reduction in the production costs of peat.

Mechanization of the extraction of milled peat is to be raised to 100 percent in 1952. To assure the fulfillment of this task, peat enterprises have pledged prompt preparation of machinery and peat fields, repair of the entire drying network, and construction of the necessary electric lines.

Because of the success achieved in the use of gathering and piling machines, their use will be extended in 1952, and 24 new, highly productive UPF-2 machines will be put in operation in peat enterprises.

The mechanized gathering of lump peat will be increased to 22.2 percent in 1952 as against 5.6 percent in 1951, and enterprises will be equipped with an additional number of UKB-2, UKB-3, and TUM-5ℓ machines.

Important tasks facing VNIITP in 1952 are the solution of the problem of completely mechanizing the hydropeat drying process and working out of effective measures for combating the spontaneous generation of heat and spontaneous combustion in milled peat.

The volume of mechanized track laying must be raised from the 1951 figure of 13 percent to 66 percent by making use of the new VNIITP railroad track layer. Glavtorf and workers in the peat industry must also pay particular attention to the experimental electrified section in railroad transport.

Glavtorfostroy must improve its work greatly, especially in the case of Gortorfostroy and the Markovo-Sbornoye and Smolevich enterprises, and it must also eliminate lags in the construction of railroads, machinery workshops, and cultural and public buildings.

The 1952 season should bring further improvements to all work of the industry, both for the mechanization of all operations in the extraction, drying, and gathering of peat, and improvement in the quality of preparation of peat machinery, as well as the introduction of new techniques.

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